

*U.S. Environmental Protection Agency*  
**Total Coliform Rule / Distribution System Advisory Committee**

**September 18-19, 2007**

RESOLVE  
1255 – 23<sup>rd</sup> Street NW, Suite 275  
Washington DC 20037

***AGENDA***

**Meeting Objectives/Desired Outcomes:**

- **Approve proposed Committee protocols;**
- **Continue to learn about implementation of the current Total Coliform Rule and other topics, and share perspectives about implications for issues to consider both for revisions to the TCR and for data collection and research needs; and**
- **Provide additional direction to technical work group on potential information and analyses to support the advisory committee.**

**Tuesday, September 18, 2007**

8:30-9:00      Arrival

9:00-9:30      Welcome, Introductions, Meeting Objectives and Agenda  
*Objective: Review desired outcomes, agenda and materials for this meeting. Approve July 2007 meeting summary.*

Gail Bingham and Kathy Grant, facilitators

⇒ *Action: Approve July 2007 meeting summary.*

9:30-10:00      Proposed Protocols for Total Coliform Rule/Distribution System Advisory Committee  
*Objectives: Review the proposed scope and protocols for the TCRDS Advisory Committee, as revised based on July meeting, and identify any additional changes to ensure a productive process.*

⇒ *Action: Approve committee scope and protocols.*

10:00-10:30      Overview and Framework for Initial Technical Work Group Activities to Support the Advisory Committee  
*Objective: Learn about technical work group activities to date and conceptual framework for initial presentations at fall meetings.*

Doug Owen, Malcolm Pirnie

Discussion:

- Clarification questions

10:30-10:45      Break

- 10:45-11:45    Presentation: Total Coliform Rule within a Safe Drinking Water Act Context  
*Objective: Analyze objectives of the Total Coliform Rule in the larger context of the Safe Drinking Water Act as it is now being implemented under the current regulatory framework.*
- Doug Owen, Malcolm Pirnie
- Discussion:
- Clarification questions
- 11:45-12:30    Presentation: Introduction to Public Health Considerations in Drinking Water  
*Objective: Review the basics of outbreak versus endemic illness as it relates to waterborne disease and how EPA uses public health information to inform regulatory decisions. Provide a preview of additional public health information being planned for the October meeting.*
- Stig Regli, U.S. EPA and Alan Roberson, AWWA
- Discussion:
- Clarification questions
  - Begin discussion from these two presentations as time permits (see below).
- 12:30-1:30    Lunch (on your own)
- 1:30-2:30    Discussion: Initial Perspectives on Issues and Additional Information Related to the Objectives of the Total Coliform Rule  
*Objective: Continue the discussion from the morning's presentations and define what public health information might be useful for discussion in October.*
- Discussion:
- What issues do the morning's presentations suggest considering in defining the objectives for a revised TCR?
  - What additional information does the Committee think would be helpful to get from the TWG in defining objectives for a revised TCR?
- 2:30-3:30    Total Coliform Rule Indicator Framework  
*Objective: Review the indicators used in the Total Coliform Rule. Discuss how well current TCR indicators meet the intended purposes of the rule and how well other indicators could meet these purposes*
- Doug Owen, Malcolm Pirnie
- Discussion:
- Clarification questions
  - What issues does this suggest considering with regard to the extent to which the provisions of the existing regulation, as enforced, address the objectives of the rule?
  - What additional information does the Committee think would be helpful to get from the TWG in understanding the pros and cons among different indicators?

3:30-3:45 Break

3:45-5:00 How States Implement the TCR and Implications for Utilities

*Objective: Understand the variability in state implementation practices, in part to provide a context for analyzing the compliance information in the SDWIS and six year review data bases; and understand the implications for utility practices.*

Darryl Osterhoudt, Association of State Drinking Water Administrators

Discussion:

- Clarification questions
- What issues does this suggest considering regarding the extent to which the provisions of the regulation, as enforced, address the rule's objectives?
- What additional information does the Committee think would be helpful to get from the TWG to better understand the practicalities of TCR implementation (e.g. for detailed presentations on large and small system practices and/or for additional perspective on compliance data)?

5:00-5:30 Public Comment [may extend later, depending on actual meeting times]

**Wednesday, September 19, 2007**

8:00-8:30 Arrival

8:30-8:45 Welcome and Overview of Day 2 Agenda

8:45-10:15 Available Data Sources

*Objective: Learn about the characteristics of available data sources (including SDWIS, recent six-year review data from the states, and other utility data) and what types of questions these existing data can potentially help answer.*

Doug Owen, Malcolm Pirnie

Discussion:

- Clarification questions and general discussion
- What questions does the Committee think are most relevant for the TWG to focus on in analyses that draw on these data bases?

10:15-10:30 Break

10:30-12:00 Summary of Existing Lists of Distribution System Elements and Prioritization Criteria

*Objective: Learn more about the elements of distribution systems identified in other forums (e.g. NAS and EPA workshops) of potential interest for future information collection and research and the criteria used in those forums for identifying possible priorities for attention. Decide whether there is enough convergence for the Committee's purposes or whether additional information is needed to set priorities, at least on some elements.*

Doug Owen, Malcolm Pirnie

Discussion:

- Clarification questions
- Is there sufficient convergence of thinking to identify one or more initial priority subject areas? If so, what direction would the Committee like to provide for the technical work group, e.g. to scope what is known, decision-relevant knowledge gaps, and begin to scope possible information collection and research needed for these knowledge gaps?
- Alternatively, what additional information would the advisory committee ask the technical work group to provide to help in setting priorities?

12:00-1:15 Lunch (on your own)

1:15-2:45 Issues Recap and Discussion

*Objectives: Recap what we've learned so far and discuss perspectives on what it means for what the Committee may wish to consider. [Note issues list in materials summarized from responses to the Federal Register notice, unsolicited comments, and discussions at previous stakeholder workshops. Provide direction to technical work group on information and analyses to support the advisory committee's discussions at future meetings.*

Discussion:

- Clarification questions
- What issues does this suggest considering for possible revisions to the rule?

⇒ *Action: Summarize initial list of issues to consider for revisions to the TCR.*

⇒ *Action: Identify October meeting topics and confirm direction to TWG.*

2:45-3:00 Wrap Up and Review Next Steps

3:00 Adjourn

*NOTE: This agenda was prepared by the facilitators for review by the Total Coliform Rule Distribution System Advisory Committee. The Total Coliform Rule Distribution System Advisory Committee is a federal advisory committee chartered by Congress, operating under the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA; 5 U.S.C., App.2). The committee provides advice to the Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency on revisions to the Total Coliform Rule (TCR), and on what information about distribution systems is needed to better understand the public health impact from the degradation of drinking water quality in distribution systems. The findings and recommendations of the Committee do not represent the views of the Agency, and this document does not represent information approved or disseminated by EPA.*